



To: Dr. Joel Boyd, Superintendent of Schools  
From: Latifah Phillips, Chief Equity and Engagement Officer  
Date: August 6, 2021  
Re: McKinney Vento American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grant

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The District has been awarded \$129,107 through the American Rescue Plan (ARP)-Homeless Children and Youth grant to support the identification, enrollment, and successful school participation of children experiencing homelessness.

As part of the strategy for improving the identification of homeless students and supporting their school success, the McKinney Vento program is proposing that \$77,760 of the grant be allocated to fund three (3) temporary part-time McKinney-Vento liaison positions.

The positions proposed are:

**McKinney-Vento Liaison (Transportation)—**

This temporary part-time position will work in conjunction with the McKinney-Vento Liaisons and the Transportation Department and focus on processing, coordinating, and tracking all transportation requests for the district's homeless students. ARP funding is intended to provide additional and immediate supports and wrap-around services for students facing homelessness, and transportation is a critical service provided to homeless students. Transportation flexibilities for McKinney Vento students extend beyond the regular transportation policy and entail a significant amount of time and coordination. A dedicated staff person to assist with homeless transportation during this period of COVID-19 response and recovery will allow the other McKinney Vento liaisons to spend more time working directly with families.

**McKinney-Vento Liaison (High School) -**

This temporary part-time position will be assigned to work with high school students experiencing homelessness, with a specific focus on grade 9 students. Working in conjunction with the Freshmen Academy, this liaison will develop and implement a mentor program for grade 9 students, monitor attendance, and provide training to the high school staff.

### **McKinney-Vento Liaison (Unaccompanied Youth) -**

This temporary part-time position will have a specific focus on the district's unaccompanied youth with special attention given to high school unaccompanied youth. Unaccompanied youth are historically very challenging to identify and this staff person will support unaccompanied youth already identified as well as develop and implement strategies to identify unaccompanied youth who have currently not been identified. Additionally, this person will liaise with other community agencies that support unaccompanied youth in order to connect the district's students with community resources.

The remainder of the ARP grant funding will be used to provide academic tutoring and enhanced resource needs such as basic needs such as bus/transportation passes, hygiene items, etc.

The memo was developed with input and information provided by Dr. Rebecca Duda, the district's Homeless Liaison and FRC Coordinator.